

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00
USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 PA-01
SP-02 SS-15 ACDA-12 HA-05 COME-00 /067 W
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O R 210620Z FEB 78
FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5292
INFO USMISSION USNATO
USDEL MBFR VIENNA
USCINCEUR
SECDEF WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 BELGRADE 1374

FOR EUR/RPM AND EUR/SOV FROM USDEL CSCE

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: CSCE, OCON
SUBJECT: BELGRADE CSCE: NEW NNA PROPOSAL ON CBMS

REFS: A) BELGRADE 1369; B) BELGRADE 1360; C) BELGRADE 1366

SUMMARY: AT CBMS EXPERTS CAUCUS FEBRUARY 20, CANADIAN
REP REPORTED THAT HIS AUTHORITIES WERE VERY COOL TO
EXPERTS GROUP PROPOSED IN NEW NNA CBMS PAPER; THEY
WOULD ACCEPT NNA PROPOSAL "ONLY AS LAST RESORT" AND
THEN WITH CERTAIN AMENDMENTS. UK REP SAID LONDON WOULD
BE PREPARED TO CONSIDER PROPOSAL ALONG LINES LAID
OUT IN NNA PAPER, WITH SEVERAL MODIFICATIONS, BUT ONLY
IN CONJUNCTION WITH SUBSTANTIVE AGREEMENT IN THOSE CSCE
AREAS OF GREATEST IMPORTANCE TO WEST. IN ABSENCE OF
SUBSTANTIVE INSTRUCTIONS FROM OTHER NATO CAPITALS,
CAUCUS DECIDED ALLIED NEGOTIATORS COULD NOT GO BEYOND
POLITE NOISES IN CONTACT GROUP MEETING FEBRUARY 20.

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1. AT NATO CBMS CAUCUS FEBRUARY 20, ONLY CANADIAN AND
UK REPS HAD SUBSTANTIVE INSTRUCTIONS ON NEW NEUTRAL/
NONALIGNED (NNA) CMBS DRAFT REPORTED REFTELS.

2. CANADIAN REP SAID OTTAWA SAW LITTLE PROSPECT OF
GREATER SUCCESS IN EXPERTS GROUP THAN IN BELGRADE
AND FORESAW WORK OF SUCH A GROUP BOGGING DOWN IN

TECHNICAL DETAILS. ALTHOUGH CANADA WOULD NOT STAND IN WAY IF OTHERS FAVORED THE PROPOSAL, IT WOULD ACCEPT IT "ONLY AS LAST RESORT", AND THEN ONLY WITH DELETION OF PROVISION FOR STUDY OF NAVAL MANEUVERS AND MOVEMENTS. IT WOULD ALSO PREFER TO SEE PROVISION FOR STUDY OF MANEUVER CEILING DROPPED AND WOULD INSIST UPON DELETION OF SPECIFIC NUMERICAL REFERENCE (E.E., 50-60,000) IF IT WERE NOT. CANADA WOULD STILL PREFER TO SEE MANEUVER CEILING PROPOSAL REMITTED TO MBFR.

3. UK REP SAID LONDON SAW LITTLE CHANCE OF NEW NNA INITIATIVE GETTING OFF GROUND. IF, HOWEVER, IT APPEARED THAT THERE WAS A CHANCE FOR PROGRESS ACROSS THE BOARD IN THE NEGOTIATIONS, PARTICULARLY ON IMPLEMENTATION ASSESSMENT AND HUMAN CONTACTS, UK WOULD BE PREPARED TO CONSIDER SOMETHING ALONG LINES OF NNA PAPER. HOWEVER, IT WOULD BE WILLING TO PROCEED TO DETAILED DISCUSSION ONLY IF SOVIETS FIRST AGREED IN PRINCIPLE TO INCLUSION OF SOMETHING ALONG LINES OF PARA THREE OF THE PROPOSAL, PROVIDING FOR ACCEPTANCE OF CERTAIN SUBSTANTIVE OBLIGATIONS IN BELGRADE. REGARDING DETAILS OF NNA PAPER, PROVISION FOR STUDY OF NAVAL MANEUVERS AND MOVEMENTS WOULD HAVE TO BE DROPPED; SINCE WEST ALREADY LIBERALLY IMPLEMENTS SMALLER-SCALE MANEUVER PROVISION, UK WOULD WANT THIS ELEMENT OF PARA THREE ELIMINATED IN FAVOR OF MANDATE FOR EXPERTS TO DEVELOP A PRECISE REQUIREMENT FOR NOTIFICATION

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OF MANEUVERS OVER 10,000; AND IT WOULD REQUIRE THIS AS A CONDITION FOR AGREEING TO INCLUSION OF A SPECIFIC TARGET NUMBER IN THE PROVISION MANDATING EXPERTS TO STUDY QUESTION OF A MANEUVER CEILING. FINALLY, LONDON DID NOT LIKE REFERENCE TO "THOSE TAKING PLACE IN PARTS, SEPARATED IN TIME OR SPACE" IN THE TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR WORK OF EXPERTS ON A MOVEMENTS REQUIREMENT; IT WOULD PREFER LANGUAGE CLOSER TO THAT IN ALLIED PROPOSAL (BM/11). UK REP REITERATED THAT LONDON FORESAW AGREEMENT ON CBMS PACKAGE ALONG LINES OF NEW NNA PROPOSAL ONLY IN CONJUNCTION WITH SUBSTANTIVE AGREEMENT IN SUBJECT AREAS OF GREATEST IMPORTANCE TO WEST.

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 BELGRADE 1374

4. NETHERLANDS REP SAID HER DELEGATION FOUND COMMITMENTS
IN PARA THREE OF NNA PAPER TOO WEAK AND
EXPERTS MANDATE IN PARA FOUR TOO VAGUE, BUT HAD NO
INSTRUCTIONS FROM THE HAGUE.

5. FRG REP REPORTED HIS AUTHORITIES WERE WITHHOLDING
SUBSTANTIVE COMMENT PENDING EASTERN REACTION TO THEZAF
LWSKXMSAL.

6. IN ENSUING DISCUSSION OF WHAT INITIAL RESPONSE
ALLIED NEGOTIATORS (NORWEGIAN AND DUTCH AMBASSADORS)
SHOULD GIVE TO NNAS IN FEBRUARY 20 CONTACT GROUP
MEETING, US REP SAID THAT WITHOUT FURTHER INSTRUCTIONS
US DEL COULD NOT SUPPORT STATEMENT GOING BEYOND
FORMULA PROPOSED BY AMBASSADOR GOLDBERG REF A (I.E.,
WELCOME PROPOSAL AS POSITIVE CONTRIBUTION AND EXPRESS
READINESS TO DISCUSS IT AS ONE BASIS FOR NEGOTIATION,
WITHOUT PREJUDICE TO OTHER PROPOSALS OR TO OUR POSITION
ON ITS SPECIFIC ELEMENTS). IF ASKED ABOUT
SPECIFIC ELEMENTS, ALLIED REPS WOULD HAVE TO SAY THAT
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INSTRUCTIONS NECESSARY TO ENGAGE IN SUCH DISCUSSION
NOT YET RECEIVED FROM CAPITALS. DUTCH REP ASKED WHETHER
ALLIED REPS COULD SAY THAT ALLIES ACCEPTED IDEA OF
EXPERTS GROUP IN PRINCIPLE. US REP SAID HE HAD NO
INSTRUCTIONS WHICH WOULD PERMIT HIM TO SUPPORT SUCH
A STATEMENT. CAUCUS AGREED THAT IN FEBRUARY 20
CONTACT GROUP ALLIED REPS SHOULD RESTRICT THEMSELVES
TO FORMULA PROPOSED BY US. SEVERAL (UK, FRG, TURKEY)
SUGGESTED THAT ALLIES SHOULD TRY TO MAKE SOVIETS

COMMIT THEMSELVES FIRST.

7. IN CONTACT GROUP HELD AFTER ABOVE WAS DRAFTED, SOVIETS SEEMINGLY SCOTCHED IDEA OF NEW NNA PROPOSAL AS POSSIBLE BASIS FOR COMPROMISE BY REFERRING TO IT AS "UNILATERAL" INITIATIVE, RECALLING THEIR OWN SECURITY PROPOSALS (I.E., THOSE CONTAINED IN BM/5), AND PROPOSING THAT FURTHER DISCUSSION BE REMITTED TO PLENARY. DESPITE IMPASSIONED PLEAS OF YUGOSLAV COORDINATOR (ACIMOVIC) AND OTHER NNA REPS FOR FURTHER EFFORT TO FIND REGOTIATING BASIS AND EXPRESSION OF WILLINGNESS BY ALLIED NEGOTIATORS TO CONTINUE CONTACT PROCESS, CONTACT GROUP ADJOURNED WITH NO SPECIFIC PLANS TO MEET AGAIN.
GOLDBERG

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